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ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: Ranger Song

ANNOUNCER: Today's program winds up the fourth year of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers on the air. For four years we have been making weekly visits to the Pine Cone Ranger Station for a look-in on the everyday life and work of the Rangers, one of the most outstanding groups of men in Uncle Sam's service. In presenting these programs we have tried to give a true picture of the splendid work these men are doing for the protection and rebuilding of our forests - a picture without artificial coloring or attempt to provide special thrills, for we felt that the true story of the everyday job these men are doing was interesting and thrilling enough of itself. At this time we want especially to thank the United States Forest Service for the excellent cooperation they have given us in bringing this program to you.

We thank
you very

Today, instead of making our usual visit to the Pine Cone Ranger Station we are bringing the Pine Cone Ranger Station folks to the studio, for a special 11th birthday celebration of their four years on the air. Stayed on the road today, something to get us in a good celebrating mood --

ORCHESTRA:

ANNOUNCER: That's the stuff, Walter -- Well, folks, here they are
Here's our old friend Ranger Jim Robbins, and Boss Robbins,
and Supervisor Ellsworth. And Winston Jack's one and
only and therefore most famous school teacher, Mary Halloway.
How's school, Mary?

MARY: This is vacation time now, you know.

ANNOUNCER: That's right, too. You haven't had to spend any of the
kids lately, then, have you?

MARY: Oh, no. Children are always good around Christmas time,
you know.

ANNOUNCER: That's right. You're been having a vacation free Jerry,
too.

MARY: Yes.

ANNOUNCER: How do you like that?

MARY: Not so well.

ANNOUNCER: Does Jerry write often?

MARY: Not so often as I'd like - but he's pretty good about it.
He's working on the Shakespeare project now - in the
Great Plains.

ANNOUNCER: Oh - vintage trees.

MAN: Not right now. They plant the trees in the spring. But he says they have over 40 million trees growing in nurseries now, that they'll have ready to plant next spring. They've already planted about five million this year. He says a lot of people are still shaking their heads about planting trees in the Great Plains, but the Forest Service is just quietly going ahead and doing the job.

ANNOUNCER: That's the old Forest Service spirit. - How about it, Supervisor? Let's get Supervisor Bert Ellsworth to give us a little spiel. Come on Bert.

ELLSWORTH: Well, Everett, I guess that's the famous Forest Ranger spirit all right. I remember once our Chief, Mr. Silcox, told a group of people that he'd be willing to take his bunch of Forest Service men to Afghanistan to build a railroad, or to any other place in the world to tackle any other kind of a tough job, and he'd know that they'd get it done.

ANNOUNCER: That's a pretty strong statement, isn't it?

ELLSWORTH: Yes sir, it is. But he meant it, all right. -- (LAUGHS) Seems like we're sort of patting ourselves on the back today, Everett.

ANNOUNCER: Well, I guess you've entitled us a little pat or two. -- Tell us what you think about this Ranger of yours. Bert.

ELLSWORTH: Jim Robbins?

ANNOUNCER: Yes. Maybe we can squeeze in a little pat on the back for Jim too, while we're at it.

WILSON: I guess you know what I think of Jim Robbins -- You know managing a National Forest of a million or so acres is no small job in itself. It's because I've got men like Ranger Jim Robbins on the job that we're able to do the job as well as we do.

ANNOUNCER: Hear that, Jim? Now you know how you stand with your boss. -- Let's ask Mrs. Robbins what she thinks about Jim Robbins. Come over here, Bess Robbins. Tell us what you think about Jim.

BESS: That's rather a personal question, don't you think?

ANNOUNCER: I suppose it is, at that. -- For his "best friend and severest critic." -- Well, anyway, tell us about your Christmas. Did you have a good Christmas at the Ranger Station, Mrs. Robbins?

BESS: Yes, we had a splendid Christmas.

ANNOUNCER: Was Jim late for Christmas dinner?

BESS: Of course. He was late for dinner as usual.

ANNOUNCER: (CHUCKLES) Hey now, that's a gross libel.

BESS: But you were, Jim.

JIM: Well, I was all ready -- right there, Johnny on the spot -- but just as we were ready to sit down, the telephone rang and that held me up a minute or two.

ANNOUNCER: I bet you made up for lost time when you got there, though. How, Jim?

JIM: (CHUCKLES) I reckon I did. -- Anyhow, I wasn't he bad off as one of the Rangers down on the Angeles National Forest a couple of years ago. He was just sitting down to his Christmas dinner with his family when a forest fire well comes in and he has to hot-foot it out into the hills to fight fire. He didn't get home 'till about three days later and by that time they were on their second day of turkey soup.

ANNOUNCER: Such is the merry life of the Ranger, huh?

JIM: Yep.

BESS: There wasn't enough left of the turkey at our house to make soup. By the time our hungry bunch got through

ANNOUNCER: Is that right? I'll bet Jim did himself proud.

BESS: He did his share, all right.

ANNOUNCER: Who else did you have there at the Ranger Station for Christmas, Mrs. Robbins?

BESS: Oh, we had several boys from the CCC Camp -- some of the boys that lived too far away to get home for Christmas.

ANNOUNCER: Oh. I see where the turkey went now. -- Anyway, that was a mighty nice thing to do -- have those boys over for Christmas. That's just the kind of thing you'd expect Jim and Bess Robbins to be doing though, isn't it? -- Well, Mrs. Robbins, how about singing a song for us -- or speaking a piece, or something?

BESS: Oh, I can't sing, Everett. Why don't you get the Ranch boys to sing?

ANNOUNCER: That's an idea. The Ranch Boys look kind of frighty over there. We'll put 'em to work -- Come on, boys, give us a good western range song.

(SONG - RANCH BOYS)

ANNOUNCER: That's great stuff. Calls for an encore, don't you think? -- Come on, boys, let's have another -- "Cutting down the Old Pine Tree," or something.

(SONG - RANCH BOYS)

ANNOUNCER: Fine -- fine! -- Well, folks, we've had a number of requests for Ranger Jim Robbins to repeat the little speech he made to a bunch of people around the campfire a couple of years ago. Maybe some more of you remember it. -- Well, we can't very well have a campfire here in the middle of the studio, but we'll make believe we're all sitting 'round a nice, cheery fire out in the woods, with the stars a-trinkling overhead. Better draw in a little closer, folks. This night air's a little chilly. -- Sitting 'round a campfire out in the woods sort of draws people together -- they feel like opening up to one another. And now we're asking Ranger Jim Robbins to give us a little speech. Let's have it, Jim --

Well you asked for a reveal, so here goes —

I've been riding the national Forest trails for twenty-five years now, folks. I came to this job of Forest Ranger a young fellow without much experience but with high ideals. Twenty-five years of hard work on the Forests have brought me a lot of experience but they haven't shaken my faith in those ideals a bit. I still see the Forests as one of God's greatest gifts to mankind, serving us in an infinite number of ways, and asking only our care and protection to enable them to keep on serving us always. As a young Ranger, I thought it would be easy to make everybody else see the forest the same way, and stop being careless and indifferent about doing the things that damage them. But I've learned since then some folks don't change their ways so easily. A lot of folks still go on being careless with fire in the woods, and never stop to think that the forests must be kept growing if they are to continue to serve us.

I've learned to love these forests more and more. For twenty-five years I've worked for them and fought to protect them, and I'm still fighting. — Do you realize what these forests of ours mean to us? They give us wood for our homes and for our industries, and for thousands of uses, they cradle our great rivers at their birth and help to provide us with steady and abundant supplies of pure water, they give shelter to our bird and animal friends, they offer us a refuge from the dizzy whirl of modern life, a chance to play, and a chance to keep up our acquaintance with our good old Mother Nature. They give us the kind of beauty and inspiration that makes life worth while living.

If we neglect our forests, if we fail to protect them, we have left only barren waste. If we care for them, if we help them to defend themselves, if we guard them against fire and misuse, they will continue to serve us for all time.

I want you folks to love the forests as I do. It isn't a blind, sentimental love. It's a practical sort of love, you see, that makes me want to work for my forests, to make them better, to help them give their best for our own and our country's good. I think everybody will come to love the forests as I do. And when everybody is ready to do his part for the forests' welfare, and to make sure that no act of his will do the forests harm, I'll be ready, when the time comes, to hit the trail over the Great Divide with a song in my heart.

The forests extend their services to us all; their benefits go far beyond their boundary lines, and continue through the years to come. And so we Rangers guard them in the interests of all. We try to give forests for the years; we work for the forests' long small future; we try to give forests immortal and sure."

(ORCHESTRA: "Trail's End" — COMES IN AS BACKGROUND FOR WINDUP OF SPEECH -

ORCHESTRA UP AS SPEECH ENDS)

ANNOUNCER:

And so we wind up the fourth year of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers on the air

The National Broadcasting Company, and the United States Forest Service both want to thank you all for the many fine letters you have written in to the Rangers, and for the splendid interest you have expressed in conservation and the welfare of our forests. It has been impossible to answer all these thousands of letters individually, but we are always glad to hear from you

Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers will continue to be on the air during the coming year. We hope to be able to bring you some special features in the programs to come - maybe we'll be able to venture away from the Pine Cone Ranger District of Radioland and give you a close-up glimpse of some of the real National Forests, - and a lot of other interesting things

And now I have a message for you - a message that comes from the northwoods, from the ciny woods of the south, from the open ranges of the west, from the forests anywhere -- It's from Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers, far and wide, and the message is -- Happy New Year to you all, and every good wish for health, joy, and prosperity in the new year to come

VO 8:15 AM
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